

**Testimony before the Appropriations Committee**  
**February 27, 2015**  
**In Opposition to the Governor's Proposed Budget Cuts for Fiscal Year 2016-17**  
**Nancy Urgell, Manchester CT**

Good evening Senator Bye, Representative Walker and members of the Appropriations Committee.

My name is Nancy Urgell. I am an Advocate for ALL persons with a disability. I disagree with the budget cuts that Governor Malloy has proposed. When Governor Malloy came into Office it sounded like that He had a disability as a child and was going to help people with disabilities have a better life.

I have not seen that. All I see are people with a disability have programs cut, and no extras of any sort. To TAKE money away from people with disabilities is a CRIME and it is DISCRIMINATION! I would like to see the Governor live on a fixed income.

The Department of Social Services is in need of more workers to handle the redetermination papers that come through their door. They are overworked, and underpaid. In Connecticut there is a program called Medicaid for Employees with Disabilities. If a person has a disability, is working and paying federal income taxes they May qualify for MEDICAID without a SPEND DOWN. This program has been in the DSS System ever since 1999. The Governor, The Deputy Governor, All the Commissioners as well as Senator Blumenthal know about this program because I told all of them Personally, BUT Connecticut has been kept in the DARK when it comes to it. To learn about this vital program call 211 or go to the **website** [www.ct.gov/MED](http://www.ct.gov/MED). Wouldn't it make more sense to hire the people with Disabilities and have them contribute to the State taxes rather than taking it out on them.

When it comes to cutting more in the way of paying for services to doctors, how could anyone with a heart think of doing such a thing! The doctors who take MEDICAID have compassion, and understanding! I don't want to see doctors say no to this most important program. I found out recently that Husky A and D have been increasing BUT Husky C for the Elderly, Blind and the Disabled has "Flat lined" at 100,000 people and that figure has not changed in YEARS. This is the only program in the state that has a SPENDDOWN and an Asset Limit. They need to be REMOVED!

NO ONE wants to have a disability. But to take something from them is a CRIME and IT IS DISCRIMINATION! Thank you for your attention.